THE ARRAIGNMENT, Conviction and Condemnation of the *Westminsterian-Junto's* ENGAGEMENT.

WITH

A Cautionarie Exhortation to all Honeſt Engliſh Spirits, to avoid the danger of Perjurie by taking of it.

PROVERBS. 24. 21. 22.

My Sonne, feare thou the Lord, and the King: and meddle not with them that are given to change.

For their calamity ſhall riſe ſuddenly, and who knoweth the ruine of them both?

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Summary Reaſons againſt the New Oath *and* Engagement.

YOU ſhall Sweare, [or] *I Declare and Promiſe, That I will bee True and Faithfull to the Common-wealth of* England, *as the ſame is now Eſtabliſhed* WITHOUT KING OR HOUSE OF LORDS.

FIRST, This *Oath* and *Engagement* is impoſed by thoſe who, by the Lawes of God and the Realme, had never any Power (admit them a full and free Houſe of Commons, under no Force, as they are not) to Adminiſter, much leſſe to Make or Impoſe any *Oath* in any Caſe. *Cookes 3. Inſtitut. p.* 165. and leſſe Authority then the Biſhops and Clergy in Convocation, who made the &c Oath, not ſo bad as this; adjudged high-Treaſon in *Canterburies* Caſe, for which hee loſt his head; *Canterburies Doome p.*26.40. though not ſo bad as this.

Secondly, It is contrary to all the antient Oathes of our Judges, Juſtices of Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Recorders, Clearkes of Chancery and other courts of Juſtice: To the Oathes of Fealty and Homage, made by all the Kings Tenants: The antient and late Oathes of Supremacy and Allegiance; the Vow and Proteſtation; the ſolemne League and Covenant, and Engagement of the whole Kingdome to the *King, his Heires Succeſſours, and Poſteritie for ever, to defend their undoubted Right to the Crowne with the laſt drop of their Bloods*, conteined in the Statutes of 1. *Iacobi cap.* 1. 2. and involves the Makers and Takers thereof, in manifold execrable perjuries; to the ſcandall of our

 Religion,

Religion, Nation, [a] *Diſhonour and high Diſpleaſure of God,* and *juſt-damnation* of their Soules.

Levit. 19. 12. *Deut.* 5. 11. *Jer.* 5. 2. & 7. 9. *Ezech.* 17. 12. to 20. *Ezech.* 5. 3. 4. *Mal.* 3. 5. *Math.* 5. 34. *Rom.* 1. 31. 32. 2. *Tim.* 3. 3. 4.

Thirdly, It is a new *Gunpowder-Treaſon*, blowing up the King and his Poſteritie, Monarchy, the Houſe of Lords, the Conſtitution and Priviledges of our Engliſh Parliaments, our ancient fundamentall Government, Lawes, Liberties, and our three Kingdomes at one crack; the very ſame and farre worſe then that of the *Jeſuites* and *Papiſts*, condemned by the Statutes of 3. *Jacobi cap.* 1. 2. 4. executing farre more then what they intended, and quite deleting the Infamy and memory of that, and all future celebration *of that joyfull day of November* 5. *never to bee forgotten.*

Fourthly, It diſſeiſeth, diſinheriteth, fore-judgeth the King of his [b] *Righteſull Crowne and Revenues*, the Houſe of Lords of their Peerage, Priviledges, and [c] the undoubted Rights our Engliſh Parliament and Kingdom of their very Liberties and beings; un-Kinging, un-Lording, un-Parliamenting, un-Kingdoming them all at once, without once ſummoning and *bringing them to Anſwer by any legall Proceſſe, to heare what they can ſay for themſelves*, and without any *lawfull Judgement of their Peers according to the Lawe of the Land*, contrary to the expreſſe Letter of *Magna Charta* 5. *E.* 3. *c.* 9. 25. *E.* 3. *c.* 4. 28. *E.* 3. *c.* 3. 37, *E.* 3. *c.* 18. 42. *E.* 3. *c.* 3. and *the Petition of Right*; yea [d] *debarres thoſe Miniſters, Officers, Lawyers, Students, from their Augmentations, Callings, Offices, Preferments and Degrees, who Refuſe or Neglect to Subſcribe it*; contrary to all theſe Statutes and the Lawe of the Land, without any hearing or Tryall; the extremitie of Tyranny and Injuſtice; tranſcending that of King, Prelates, Starre-Chamber or High-Commiſſion.

[b] 1. *Jac* c 1. 2 4. 3. *Jacobi.* 3. 2.

[c] A Plea for the Lords.

[d] Votes of *Octob.* 11. 22. 1649.

Fiftly, It inevitably involves the Makers, Takers and Subſcribers thereof in *manifold* High-*Treaſons againſt King, Kingdome, Parliament*, for ſome of which only in a farre lower Degree, *Strafford, Canterbury* and many *others have loſt their Heads*, as you may read in Maſter *St. John's Argument* againſt *Strafford*, and Sir *Edward Cookes* 3. *Inſtitutes cap.* 1. 2. to the forfeiture of their Lives, Eſtates, Soules; yea, Infamy and Ruine of their Families.

Sixtly.

Sixtly, It enjoynes us to bee *True and Faithfull to the new Common-wealth of England* (the Generall Councell of Officers of the Army; the new created Councell of State, and their *Westminster* Conclave of Journey-men) *as it is now Established* WITHOUT KING OR LORDS (without consent of Kingdome, People or Parliament) by force of Armes, Treachery, Perjury, &c; that is, to assist and *defend them with our Lives, Councells, Estates, and to submit to all their* (illegall) *Acts and Taxes* (to the *losse of Lives, Liberties, Properties against the Kings or Lords just Titles*; and our owne Lawes, Liberties, Byrth-Rights; which to doe, is not only contrary to Lawe [since no *Homage* or *Fealty is due from any Subject, whatsoever, to other Subject*, but to the *King alone, and with a saving of that Faith which hee owes to our Soveraigne Lord the King*, and that only where *there is a legall Tenure betweene them*, as Sir *Edward Cooke* Resolves, 1. *Institutes f.* 64. 65. 67. 68.) but no lesse then *High-Treason* within the Statute of 25. *E.* 3. *c.* 2. as he Resolves in his 3. *Institut. c.* 1, and therefore unreasonable and Treasonable for such as are True and Faithfull neither to King, Lords, Parliament, Kingdome or People, to exact or expect from any others.

Seventhly, It most ingratefully and unworthily obliterates the memoriall of all the good Lawes, Liberties, Franchises, Protection, Benefits, Deliverances wee have received, and the Peace, Prosperity, Freedome and Happinesse, Wee and our Ancestors have enjoyed under the Reignes of most Generous, Valorous, Bountifull, Pious, Religious Kings and Queenes (especially our late renowned King, *Edward* the sixt, Queene *Elizabeth*, King *James*, and a great part of King *Charles* his Reigne, which the Parliaments in their Reigns in [e] sundry *Acts*, our own & forreigne Historians and Writers have so highly *magnified* and blessed God for; and our very last Parliament remembred and thankfully acknowledged in some of their [f] *Remonstrances*, of which we need no other testimony but our [g] *Kings & Coronation* Oath; in extirpating Kings and Monarchy for ever after, for some confessed extravagancies and Errors of the beheaded King, not halfe so grievous, oppressive, unjust or impious, as those themselves are guilty of, especially in Repealing as much as in

[e] 25 *H.* 8. *c.* 22. & all Acts of the Subsidies granted by the Laity or Clergy in their reignes

[f] Exact Collections *p.* 14. 15. 16. 696.

[g] Exact Collection. *p.* 712, 713. 714.

in them lies the *Oathes of Supremacy and Allegiance*, *and the solemne League and Covenant* (the principall Bullwarks against the Pope and Papists encroachments) and imposing this new *Oath and Engagement*, against the very Letter, Scope of these and sundry other just and ancient *Oathes*, and forcing it against mens Consciences, to make them willfully perjured [*h*] *and damne their Soules*.

Eightly, The maine end of this *Oath* is to extinguish, irradicate our English Monarchy and Kingship; though the [*i*] *Government of God himselfe over the Whole World*, and of our [*k*] *Saviour Jesus Christ over his Church*, who have the Titles of [*l*] *King of Kings*, &c. so frequently given them in Scripture, though the [*m*] *first*, *antientest*, *universallest*, *honourablest*, *freeest*, [*n*] *best*, *happiest*, *safest*, *peaceablest*, *durablest* Government of all others in the World; as the Scripture, Histories, Politicians and Divines accord: That Government under which all the Inhabitants of this Isle, since it was first Peopled, have ever lived, flourished; continuing unalterable in all Changes and Successions of those Nations which have invaded, peopled, or Conquered it, as best and most agreeable and pleasing to the People: That of which we have so long experience, and enjoyed the happiest, freest, peaceablest and most Religious we are ever like to see; that which is established, ratified with so many sacred *Oathes*, *Lawes*, *Vowes*, *Acts*, *Records and Fences* of all sorts, that Piety or Policy could invent, that Impiety, Impudence and Treachery it selfe might justly feare to invade it; and honoured with such signall preservations and deliverances, in the Persons of *Querne Elizabeth* and *King James*, specified in our Annals, and [*o*] some *Acts of Parliament*, as might daunt all *Traytors* from attempting its subversion; and all to introduce a Lowe-Country Government, under as many Kings and Tyrants, as there are *new Lords*, *Officers*, *Souldiers*, supported by a numerous standing Army, and constant Garrisons in all Counties; which must bee maintained at the Kingdomes and Peoples charge by a *Perpetuall Excise so* [*p*] *much declamed against in the King*, who did only once secretly *attempt*, (but not impose it) great *arbitrary Monthly Contributions*, renued and augmented at our new *Governours* meere pleasures (who both impose, receive and

[h] Psal 15.1. 4 Rom 1 31 32.
[i] Psal 22.11 Psal. 47 2.7. Psal.29 10.
[k] Psal.2 6 Isay 9 7 Luke 1 33.
[l] Psal.10.16 Psal. 47 2. Psal 89 13. Ps 48 2 Ps 95 3. Ps.149.2. Ps 33 17 20 1 Tim.1 17.
[m] Seldens titles of honor part. 1.c 1.2.3.
[n] Acknowledged by Mr. Pym. himselfe and the house of Commons Canterburie's doome p. 29 Exact Collections p 696.
[o] 1 Jac c.1.2 3. Jacobi c. 1.2.4.
[p] Exact Collection. p.6.

and diſpoſe thereof as they pleaſe) and levy it by meere force of Armes (reputed *Treaſon* in [q] *Straffords* Caſe, and a levying Warre againſt the *King and Kingdome*) and that accompanied with the undoing peſt of [r] *Free Quarter*, upon every March, or pretence of Arreares, or Pay: And what happy free *new State and Government* this will prove (the very beſt all rationall men muſt expect, being ſupportable only by a perpetuall Army, Garriſons, Exciſe, Contributions, &c. as the Low-Countries are) to juſtle out our ancienteſt Monarchy in the World, under which wee were freed from all *Armies, Garriſons, Exciſe, Contributions, Free-Quarter*, and feares of Forraigne Invaſions, which now affright us, granting only a *Subſidy or two* in divers yeares, only by *Acts of Parliament*, to which all conſented (wherein the Commons never preſumed to Tax the Lords and Clergy at their pleaſure, as they now unjuſtly doe, without their own free conſents) amounting not to one Moneths Exciſe and Contribution in many yeares; let all men judge bebefore they take or ſubſcribe this new *Oath and Engagement* to aboliſh the one which was ſo eaſy, and effect the other, which muſt of neceſſity prove ſo grievous.

[q] Mr. St. *Joans* Argument at Law.

[r] Condemned in the *Petition of Right* 3. *Caroli*.

Ninthly, It will really verifie and make good all the late *King's* * *Declarations* and *Remonſtrances* againſt the proceedings of the late *Houſes* of *Parliament*; wherein Hee prophetically and frequently charged them (or rather *a few Factious and ambitious diſcontented ſpirits, that over-ſwayed and ſeduced them, under the ſpecious pretences* OF RELIGION *and* LIBERTY) *with a Trayterous* RESOLUTION *and* DESIGNE *to alter, deſtroy, diſſolve, ſhake, and rent in pieces the whole frame and conſtitution of this Kingdome, ſo admirably framed and continued by the bleſſing of God and the wiſedome of our Anceſtors to the wonder and envy of all the Neighbouring Kingdomes. To turne the well tempered Monarchy into a Democracy: To ruine Monarchy it ſelfe and Regall Power, never before ſtruckt at. To Depoſe, Murther, and Deſtroy both Himſelfe and His Royall Poſterity, and Diſſolve His Government and Authority. To alter and ſubvert the ancient Frame, Conſtitution, and Government of Church, State, Parliament, and Fundamentall Lawes, Liberties of the Kingdome and People. To deſtroy the houſe of Lords, and the Priviledges,*

* Exact Collection p. 262. 281 284 &c. 289. 297. 298. 500 514 517. 521 522. 526. 528. 530 531. 534 550 551. 554 558. 561. 562. A Collection, &c. p. 177 worthy our ſerious conſideration.

viledges, Rights and Freedome of our Parliaments: To subject both King and People, Lawes and Liberties, together with His and his good Subjects Lives and Fortunes, and bring them into perpetuall slavery and bondage to their Vast, Unlimited, Lawlesse, Arbitrary, Seditious, Inquisition, Tyranny, Power Governments, (which would revive that Tragedy Mr. Hooker relates of the Anabaptists in Germany) *and to destroy both Religion and Liberty, King and People; over which they designed to make themselves perpetuall Dictators*: And, that *their Armies were raised purposely to effect all these Designes*: (all which wee now finde effected, and fully accomplished by the treachery of the Army and those now acting) *The timely prevention whereof, the King and his Party professed, was the only end and Designe of taking up Armes against them, for the preservation of Religion, Lawes, Liberties, Monarchy, and prevention of this fore-seene Anarchy, Tyranny, and Confusion, now brought upon us by our new pretended Governours* (through perjury, treachery, and violence) *against the Votes and Remonstrances of both houses, who particularly* * *Renounced and Protested against them*; And whereof the *Westminster* Conclave in the 16. and 17. pages of their *late Declaration of September* last (ordered to bee read in Churches) doe sufficiently acquit both Houses, and those who adhered to them only out of honest and publique Intention, *as Designes of their owne, not revealed till of late*, the *timely discovery whereof would have deterred all from attempting or adhering to the chiefe Contrivers of them.* Now our subscription to this *new Oath* and *Engagement*, will *post factum*, make both our selves, the late Houses, and all their adherents apparently guilty of all these *traytorous horrid Designes* (to which they were no waies privie nor assenting, but ever abjured in their *Protestation, Vow, Solemne League and Covenant*, and abhominated from their soules) and thereby not only verifie but justifie the *Declarations* and *Proceedings* of the King in every particular, as most Just, Necessary and Honourable for the publique Liberty and Safety; but likewise canonize (as it were) him with all his slaine and suffering Party, as *Martyrs for the Kingdomes and Peoples Safety*, and the *Publique Liberty*; (for which they lost their lives and estates; as all *Prescribers* and *Subscribers* of this *Oath and Engagement* must now necessarily acknowledge,

* Exact Collection. p 695. 696 657 658 A Collection. &c. p. 420. to 428 658 699. 700. 877. 878.

acknowledge, and all the World will conclude againſt them) and brand our ſelves, our Bretheren of *Scotland* and all thoſe who have loſt their lives, limbs and eſtates in oppoſition or warres againſt them, with both the late *Houſes*, for *notorious Rebells, Traytors, Conſpirators, Murtherers*, on whoſe *Heads* and *Soules* the guilt of all the *precious blood* ſhed in our late and preſent Warres, both in *England, Ireland* and *Scotland*, muſt now bee tranſlated from the King and his Party (on whom wee have formerly charged it) and juſtly reſt for the future, to their eternall infamy, condemnation, ruine. Which unavoydable conſequence of our ſubmiſſion and ſubſcription to this *Oath* and *Engagement*, with the horrors of Conſcience, and divine Judgements that muſt neceſſarily ſeize upon us, when under the guilt of ſo much *Treachery* and *Blood ſhed*, is ſufficient of it ſelfe alone to deterre us from the leaſt aſſent thereto, and to engage our utmoſt power againſt them, without any other arguments; eſpecially if compared with the Loyall and Heroicall reſolutions and engagements of our Anceſtors in the Parliament at *Lincolne. An.* 28. *E.* 1. (Recorded in *Walſinghams Hiſt. Anglia. p.* 49. to 56. *Cookes* 2. *Inſtit. p.* 97. 98.) 20. *H.* 3. *ch.* 9. 40. *E.* 3. *rot. Parl. n.* 8. *Cookes* 4. *Inſtit. p.* 13. 14. The notable Statute of 16. *R.* 3. *c.* 5. of *Præmunire.* 11. *H.* 7. *c.* 18. 19. *H.* 7. *c.* 1. 25. *H.* 8. *c.* 22. 35. *H.* 8. *c.* 1. 1. *Maria. Parl.* 2. *ch.* 1. 1. *Eliz. c.* 1. 3. 5. *Eliz c.* 1. 23. *Eliz. c.* 1. 2. 1. *Jacobi ch.* 1. 2. 3. *Jac. ch.* 1. 2. 4. 5. & 7. *Jac. ch.* 6. which all *perjured Judges, Sergeants and Lawyers* (who have diſhonoured their profeſſions by their late ſubſcriptions, and exceeded *Judge Thorpe, Treſilian* and his companions, and the *Ship-Money* Judges, in their *Perjuries* and *Treaſons* againſt *King, Kingdome, Lords, People, Lawes, Liberties*, which they have baſely and wickedly betrayed, againſt their Science and Conſcience) may doe well to chew the cudde upon and on Mr. *St. Johns Speech* at the *Impeachment of the Judges* concerning *Ship-Money*, and Argument at Law at *Straffords Attainder* (enough to hang and damne them all twenty times over, with all other Impoſers and Subſcribers of this *Treaſonable Engagement*) doe well to head other *Straffords* whoſe crimes were not halfe ſo treaſonable and abhominable as the enforcing or ſubſcribing

of this *Oath* and *Engagement*, by the meere pretended Authority of those, who never had the least legall power to administer any old lawfull Oath, in any case, when a full free and lawfull Commons House; much lesse to make and impose a new unreasonable and illegall Oath of Allegiance to themselves (who are obliged by no such reciprocall Oath to preserve our Lawes, Liberties and free Customes, as our Kings alwaies were) upon all the Nation, against the Lawes and Statutes of the Realme, and above thirty legall Oathes yet in force, which sundry Officers are obliged to take before they may or ought to execute their respective offices.

Tenthly, The Scripture is expresse, that *Monarchicall Government is Gods owne speciall Ordinance*, *Deut.* 17. 14 15. and *Prov.* 8. 15. 16. *Rom.* 13 1. 2. That the enjoyment of *Kings and Kingly Government is a great honour, happinesse and benefit to a Nation and a speciall blessing promised and given to them by God himselfe*, *Gen.* 17. 6. 16. *Jer.* 17. 25 *c.* 22. 4. 2. *Chron.* 9. 8. *Ezech.* 16. 13. And can it then bee a miserie and Judgment to us? that is a *most severe Judgement* of God, and the cause of many miseries, oppressions, disorders and destruction to a Nation or Kingdome, to bee without a King, by the Scriptures and Gods owne Revelation. *Judg.* 17 6 *c.* 18. 1. *c.* 19. 1. *c.* 21. 25. *Hosea* 1. 4 *c.* 3. 4. 5. *c.* 10. 3. *Jer* 22. 3. 13 *Hosea* 13. 11. 12. *Mich.* 4. 9. 10. *Amos* 1. 13. 14 15. *Zech.* 9. 5. And can it bee then any happinesse and no judgement unto us to bee without a King? That Kings have beene the *greatest Reformers and Promoters of Gods Worship and Religion and suppressors of Idolatry under the Law* (as the Bookes of *Kings*, *Chronicles*, *Ezra*, *Ester*, *Nehemiah*, *Daniel*, the *Psalmes*, *Proverbs* testify) and are specially *prophecied and promised to bee the chiefe Patriots*, *Fathers*, *Promoters*, *Propagators and Reformers of Religion*, *Gods Church and Worship under the Gospell*, in sundry texts, as *Psal.* 62. 29. *Ps.* 72. 10. 11. *Ps.* 112. 15. *Ps.* 138. 4. 5. *Ps.* 148. 11. *Isay* 41. 2. *c.* 45. 1. 2, 5. *c.* 49. 7. 23. *c* 52. 15. *c.* 60. 3. 10. 11. *c.* 62 2. *Rev.* 11. 15. *c.* 21. 24. which Histories witnesse to bee experimentally verified, and more especialy in our *Island* (according to that Prophecie *Psal.* 72. 10. relating unto *Islands*) which had the fift *Christian King* [*s*] *Lucius*, and first most renowned

Christian

Christian Empire, *Constantine the Great*, borne and Crowned in it; and many pious, devout and *religious Princes* since, of ancient and later times, by whose *bounty*, *care*, *zeale*, *religion* and *learning* were advanced, continued and propagated amongst us, and are now likely to expire with our Monarchy, for want of protection, maintenance, encouragement, and punishment of Atheisme, Heresy, Blasphemy and Prophanenesse, and defrauding Ministers both of their Tythes and promised augmentations, eating them out with taxes, & turning them out of their Livings and livelihood, by arbitrary Committees against Law and Justice, upon the bare suggestions of every malicious Sectary, or Tythe-declaiming prosecutor. Upon wh chgrounds Christians under the Gospell are in the *first place enjoyned to make prayers, intercessions and thanks-givings for Kings that under them they may live a peaceable life in all Godlinesse and Honesty*: FOR THIS IS GOOD AND ACCEPTABL IN THE SIGHT OF GOD OUR SAVIOUR (therefore [illegible]boliſh Kings is sinfull and displeasing in his sight, and contr[illegible]e to his revealed will) 1. *Tim.* 2. 1. 2. To *submit to Kings as unto the Supreme, and honour them for the Lords sake; for so it is the will of God.* 1. *Pet.* 13, 14 15. 17. To *bee subject to Principalities and Powers.* *Tit.* 3. 1, *Rom.* 13. 1. which Scriptures must bee raised out of the Bible as Apocryphall, if wee will extirpate Kings and Monarchy out of the Realme and Christian World, as some now endeavour: the attempting whereof must needes bee an high affront to *Christ* himselfe, which robs him of one of his most glorious Gospell Titles, *King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.* 1. *Tim.* 6 15. *Rev.* 17. 14. *c.* 19 16. Add to this, that the Scripture relates it a great *honour and prosperity to a Nation to become a Kingdom.* *Ezech.* 16. 13. and a great *judgement, misery, and dishonour to bee un-Kingdomed, or made a base, or no Kingdom.* *Jer.* 16. 7 9. *c.* 22. 4 5 6. *&c.* *Ezech.* 29. 14 15. *Dan.* 11 9. *Hosea* 1 4 *Dan.* 2. 44. That the Church of *Christ*, the *Gospell*, and *Heaven* it selfe are alwaies and [s] very *frequently* stiled a *Kingdom*, never a State or Republique (in contradiction to a Kingdome) throughout the *Old* and *New-Testament*. That the highest honour *Christ* hath purchased for us with his most precious blood is, to *make us Kings to God his Father*; to admit us into his *Kingdome of*

[r] *Matth. Westm. An.* 285. 307. *Speed, Godwin, Spelman, Usher, De Eccles. Brit. Primordijs.*

[s] *Psal.* 145. 11. 13. *Isay* 9 7 *Dan.* 4 35. *c.* 6. 27. *Math.* 3. 2. *c.* 5 7. 19 *c.* 12. 28. *c* 21. 43. *c.* 25. 34. *c.* 26. 25. *Luk.* 3. 33. *c.* 10. 11. 1. *Cor.* 6. 9. *Col.* 1. 13. 1. *Tim.* 4 1. 18 *Jam.* 2. 5. 2. *Pet.* 1. 11. *Rev.* 12. 10.

Grace here, and of Glory hereafter, where we ſhall reigne as Kings for ever. Rev. 1.5 6.c.5.10. *Lu.* 1.13.1. *Theſſ.* 2.12. 2. *Tim.* 4.18. And that the *Kingdomes* only (not States and Republiques) *of the Earth* are Prephecied and Promiſed to become the *Kingdoms of the Lord, and of his Chriſt. Pſ.* 8.31.32 *Rev.* 1.15. *Obad.* 21. upon all which conſiderations, we can never ſubſcribe to the extirpation of our Kingly Government, or tranſlating our ancienteſt Kingdome into the puniſt Republique in the World for feare wee loſe Gods protection of and intereſt, reigne, preſence by his Ordinances in our Kingdome, and be for ever excluded out of his Kingdomes of Grace, Glory, and from reigning as Kings in either of them, which the preſcribers and ſubſcribers of this *Oath* and *Engagement* (who uſurpe upon Gods ſpeciall prerogative to diſpoſe of the *Kingdomes of the Earth at his own pleaſure. Da.* 4 32.17. *Pſ.* 18 6.7.9.) againſt ſo many Oaths, Covenants, Reaſons, Scriptures, have cauſe to feare and expect.

Eleventhly, [redacted] are perſwaded in our conſciences, that the change of our righteous King into many new ſelfe created States, our Kingdome into a Common-Wealth, and ancient Parliaments of King, Lords and Commons into a new Repreſentative of Commons alone without King or Lords, the principall Deſigne of this new *Oath* and *Engagement*, againſt ſo many Oaths, Lawes, and Engagements of former & later times inviolably to preſerve them with our lives, eſtates, & laſt drop of our bloods, and that by the far leſſer part of the Kingdome and Houſe of Commons, againſt the wills and Proteſtations of the Major part who are moſt concerned therein, and without hearing their reaſons and objections to the contrary, or convincing them of the neceſſitie or conveniency thereof by a free hearing and debate thereof, in a full and free Parliament ſpecially convened for that purpoſe; is not only a moſt unjuſt, illegall and tyrannicall act, contrary to the Lawes of God, Nature and the Realme, a great ſcandall to our Religion, and injury and diſhonour to our whol Engliſh Nation, not to be preſidented in any age, eſpecially by ſo great pretenders to publique Liberty; but likewiſe an undertaking of ſuch dangerous conſequence, as none endowed with right Reaſon, the feare of God, or any reall love to their Country, durſt once for to attempt, as is clear to us by theſe particulars.

1. It will involve us in perpetuall Warres and troubles so long as there are any of the blood Royall who have title to the Crowne, or any of the Nobility endowed with any sparkes of honour left alive; who will never desist from attempting the recovery of their lost Rights and Priviledges.

2. It will sever the united Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *Ireland* from, and engage them and all the Kings forraigne friends and Allyes against us; and necessitate us to maintain a perpetuall Army and Garrisons by Land, and Navy by Sea; which will undoe us, with Contribution, Excise, Free-Quarter; expose us to perpetuall Murthers, Robberie, Outrages, Tumults, Oppressions, Discontents; Decrease and Decayall Trading; and end in our absolute Slaverie, Miserie, Ruine.

3. It will necessitate our new Governours, after the sale of the Kings and Deanes and Chapters Lands, to help ease the People (for a time only) and support their Army and Navy, to seize and sell the Lands of all Corporations, Companies, Colledges, Hospitalls, Schooles, and Rectories of Churches in the Kingdome (a thing already projected by some) and to find out some device or other to make new Delinquents of purpose to Sequester and Confiscate their Estates, till the whole Kingdome be Sequestred & made Malignants to help pay the Soldiers: one feared Designe of this new *Oath* and *Engagement* against those who out of grounds of conscience, Law and solid prudence, refuse to subscribe it.

4. It will dissolve all our ancient Leagues with forraigne Kingdomes and States, made only with our King and Kingdome, and by the Law of Nations give them advantage and occasion to seize our Ships, Merchants, Merchandize without breach of League, in the behalfe of the King and those who stand for the Kingdomes continuance, with whom only the Leagues were made and stand firme against others who oppose them.

5. It will lose our Interest, honour and reputation in and withall other Kingdomes or States, who will refuse to owne or treat with us a State, thus forcibly and treasonably erected; or else treat with us, as the punieſt and meaneſt State in the World, whose Agents and publique Ministers must give place to those of all Kings, Princes and other States whatsoever

which are ancienter then it, ever by the [u] *Law of Nations and resolution of all Heraulds*; which the generosity of the English Nation (the ancientst and first Christian Kingdome in the Christian World [x] claiming precedency of all other Kingdomes in Generall Councells and Assemblies heretofore) will hardly brooke.

[v] *Cassanæus Catalogus gloriæ Mundi Hist. of the Counc. of Trent.*

[x] *Seldens Titles of Hon. part. 2. ch. 11.*

6. It will annull, dissolve and extinguish all the Corporations, Tenures, ancient Customes, Rents, Services, Courts of Justice, ancient Seales, Processe, Writs, Legall Proceedings, Charters, Liberties, Customes, Forfeitures upon penall Lawes, Titles of Honour that are either hereditary or during life, and current Coynes of the Kingdome; which being derived only the Kings and ancient Parliaments of *England* for them, their Heires and Successors, or reserved to them, their Heires and Successors, and none others, and bearing their stamp and image on them; must all fall, expire and vanish together with them, as the House falls all to pieces when the foundation is subverted; the Rivers quite faile when the springs from whence they flow, the effects cease when the cause is destroyed, and the derivatives expire and vanish quite away when the primitives are abolished: And what confusions and mischiefes will ensue, let the World judge.

7. If wee shall once give way that our Kings, Kingdome, Peers, and Parliaments; setled, established, secured and fenced with so long Prescriptions, Lawes, *Oathes*, Covenants, Engagements and Securities of all sorts that humane wisdome can invent, shall be thus overturned, destroyed, dissipated, annihilated in a moment, at the wills and lusts of our present Usurpers, against all their Solemne *Oaths*, Covenants and Protestations not to doe it; wee cannot but imagine, conceive and believe, that every particular persons estate, goods, life, liberties and enjoyments in the Kingdome not halfe so well established and fenced as they, can be secure or exempt from their violence & rapine but subject to their lawlesse wills, courts, acts, seizures & dispofals, to deprive us of them at their pleasures; which will render us the miserablest & slavishest People under Heaven, instead of a free Republick; of which the late illegall proceedings in martiall arbitrary Courts and Committees against the beheaded King, Lords and others, with their late imposed arbitrary Taxes,

ses, Excises, Acts for new Treasons, and this very *Oath* and *Engagement* give undeniable experiments.

Upon which, and sundry other weighty considerations, we are peremptorily resolved, by the grace and assistance of our Omnipotent God, rather to endure ten thousand Sequestrations, Imprisonments, Deaths; then to betray our King, Kingdomes, Parliaments, Lawes, Liberties, Religion, all our earthly comforts, wound our Consciences, damn our immortall Souls by our submission or subscription to this irreligious, flagitious, pernicious, sacrilegious, illegall, irrationall, unconscionable, treasonable New *Oath* and *Engagement*; and adhere to the death constantly and sincerely to our former *Oathes, Covenants* and *Engagements*, which they diametrically oppose, maugre any humane powers or forces whatsoever.

To close up all we heartily wish all perjured Prescribers of this New *Oath* and *Engagement* (especially apostate Assembly-men, Divines and Lawyers, who contrary to their former *Oathes, Covenants, Protestations* and *Subscriptions*) have subscribed this new *Oath*, Conscientiously and sadly to consider and peruse: *Levit.* 19. 12. *Psal.* 15. 1. 2. 4. *Iosh.* 9. 18. 19. 20. 2 *Sam.* 21. 1. & 1 *King.* 1. 29. 30. *c.* 2. 42. 43. 46. 2 *Chron.* 13. 5, 6. & *Neh.* 5 12. 13. *Ier.* 34. 8. *to* 20. *Ezech.* 17. 11. *to* 22. *Zech.* 5. 1. *to* 5. *Mal.* 3 5. *Rom.* 1. 28. 31. 32. 2 *Tim.* 3. 1. *to* 6. Dr. *Beards* Theatre of Gods Judgements *L.* 1. *c.* 27 28. of Perjurers divine punishments (especially the example of *Rodulph. p.* 174. with another of that nature *p.* 176. and the example of that perjured Usurper of the Crowne, against his *Oath*, King *Heraulds Math. West. An.* 1066. *p.* 430. 438. with the sad Stories of Archbishop *Cranmers* tortures of Conscience, and Mr. *Bilneys* for subscribing against their Consciences to save their Lives, in Mr. *Fox* his Monuments: And then they will eyther with *Peter*, after he had abjured his Lord and Master with an oath, goe forth and weep bitterly, if they have any sparkes of Grace or hopes of Salvation remaining in them; or else with treacherous *Iudas*, who betrayed his Lord and Master to gratifie the High-Priests, goe out despairing, and hang themselves to avoid the shame of the World, and anguish of their tormenting Consciences.

A Quære touching an *English Monarchy*, and a *Low-Country Free-State*; which of them is the Freest, and most to bee desired.

An English Monarchie,

Is a most Honorable free Government by an hereditary King according to the Lawes of the Kingdome, supplyed only (without any standing Army, Garrisons, Free-Quarter, Excise, or Monethly Contributions, by a bare Ordinance of a few Commons) with a Subsidy or two, in divers yeares, freely granted by the Laity and Clergy in full Parliament by distinct Acts of Parliament.

A Low-Country Free-State,

Is an Ignoble Servitude under the Militarie Command of many selfe-Created new States, erected and supported by the meere Power of a standing Army, constant Garrisons, Citadels, accompanied with perpetuall Monethly Contributions, Taxes, Excises and Free-Quarter imposed on the Clergy & Laity by those new States alone, without common consent or Act of Parliament, and augmented and disposed of at their owne Will and Pleasure.

Utrum horum mavis, [illegible].

FINIS.